LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6890 NOTE PREPARED: Dec 27, 2010

BILL NUMBER: HB 1550 BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Military Family Relief Fund.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Baird BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: GENERAL IMPACT: State

X DEDICATED FEDERAL

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> This bill makes changes to the definition of a "qualified service member" for purposes of determining eligibility for assistance from the Military Family Relief Fund. The bill also makes related changes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill changes the qualification under which service members or their dependents may receive assistance from the Military Family Relief Fund (MFRF). Under current law, the qualifying service member or the dependent(s) of a qualifying service member are eligible for up to one year after (1) the end of the a service member's active duty service or (2) the end of a national time of conflict or war (which ever comes first). Under the bill, qualified service members and their dependent(s) will be eligible to receive benefits from the MFRF for up to 12 months after the service member's active duty service ends.

Removing these qualification requirements will not necessarily increase expenditures from the MFRF, but may increase MFRF expenditures in future years to provide assistance to service members and service member's dependent(s) when the nation is not in a time of national conflict or war. Additional expenditures made from the MFRF will depend on (1) when a service member's active duty service ends and (2) the decisions of the Indiana Veterans' Affairs Commission regarding administering benefits.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

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Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Veterans' Affairs, Indiana Veterans' Affairs Commission.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Bill Brumbach, 232-9559.

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